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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/799,356	03/12/2004	Robert L. Chambers	M61.12-0601	6338
27366	7590	06/05/2007	EXAMINER	
WESTMAN CHAMPLIN (MICROSOFT CORPORATION) SUITE 1400 900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3319			JACKSON, JAKIEDA R	
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2626				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/05/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/799,356	CHAMBERS ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jakieda R. Jackson	2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gould et al. (USPN 6,839,669), hereinafter referenced as Gould.**

Regarding claim 1, Gould discloses a method of recognizing speech, the method comprising:

detecting a predefined prefix (computer please; column 8, lines 38-59 and column 33, lines 24-35 with column 42, lines 43-56 and column 77, line 61 – column 78, line 11);

recognizing text from speech following the prefix using a set of grammars associated with the detected prefix (speech recognition; column 7, lines 16-54 with column 22, lines 1-14 and preambles; column 31, lines 3-16 with column 66, lines 31-67 and column 77, line 61 – column 78, line 11); and

directing recognized text to a target associated with the set of grammars (column 11, line 24 – column 12, line 51 with column 66, lines 31-67 and column 68, lines 6-19 with column 77, line 61 – column 78, line 11).

Regarding **claim 2**, Gould discloses a method wherein the set of grammars is specific to a computer program (column 77, line 61 – column 78, line 11).

Regarding **claim 3**, Gould discloses a method wherein the target is the computer program (computer please; column 8, lines 38-59 and column 9, lines 60-67 with column 22, lines 1-14 and column 33, line 24 – column 34, line 65).

Regarding **claim 4**, Gould discloses a method wherein the prefix is at least one word related to the computer program (preamble; column 31, line 1 – column 32, line 64).

Regarding **claim 5**, Gould discloses a method wherein the prefix is a word (word; column 6, lines 53-65 with column 66, lines 31-67).

Regarding **claim 6**, Gould discloses a method wherein the prefix is a phrase (phrase; column 8, lines 16-59 with column 12, lines 38-51 and column 22, lines 1-14 with column 66, lines 31-67).

Regarding **claim 7**, Gould discloses a method wherein the predefined prefix, and set of grammars are specified in a category (phase to start; column 22, lines 1-14).

Regarding **claim 8**, Gould discloses a method wherein the category also includes a field to identify a parent of the category (directory paths; column 12, lines 38-51 with column 14, lines 27-32 with column 22, lines 1-14).

Regarding **claim 9**, Gould discloses a method wherein the category also includes a field to determine if a prefix is required to invoke the category (column 14, lines 27-32 and column 22, lines 1-14).

Regarding **claim 10**, Gould discloses a method executed upon a desktop computer (desktop computer; column 6, lines 40-52).

Regarding **claim 11**, Gould discloses a method executed upon a mobile computing device (handheld computer; column 6, lines 4-19 with column 2, lines 8-26).

Regarding **claim 12**, Gould discloses a data structure for storing information relative to a speech recognition category, the data structure comprising:

 a prefix field, which when recognized will cause the category to become an ActiveCategory (preamble; column 31, line 1 – column 32, line 64);

 a grammar field indicating a set of grammars to use with the category (column 22, lines 1-14);

 an required field to indicate whether the prefix must be uttered in order to direct speech to the set of grammars (preamble; column 31, line 1 – column 32, line 64); and

 a parent field indicating a parent category (preamble; column 31, line 1 – column 32, line 64).

Regarding **claim 13**, Gould discloses a speech recognition system comprising:
 an input for receiving speech (utterance of speech; column 6, lines 52-65);
 a processor for recognizing speech using a set of one or more grammars (speech recognizer; column 7, lines 16-54);

wherein the processor is adapted to recognize a prefix associated with a desired category (preamble; column 31, line 1 – column 32, line 34), and to recognize speech using the set of one or more grammars associated with the desired category when the prefix is recognized to generate an output (grammar; column 66, line 52 – column 68, line 19); and

wherein the output is provided to a target associated with the recognized grammar (column 31, line 1 – column 32, line 34).

Regarding **claim 14**, Gould discloses a recognizer wherein the prefix must be recognized in order activate the set of grammars (preamble; column 31, line 1 – column 32, line 64).

Regarding **claim 15**, Gould discloses a recognizer wherein the set of grammars is specific to a computer application (column 77, line 61 – column 78, line 11).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Hwang et al. (PGPUB 204/0098263) disclose a language model for use in speech recognition.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jakieda R. Jackson whose telephone number is 571-272-7619. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:00p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on 571-272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JRJ
May 24, 2007


DAVID HUDSPETH
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